



The University of Georgia

Honors Interdisciplinary Studies Major Information for Applicants

This major is designed to allow Honors students the opportunity to create a program of study with a defined interdisciplinary combination of courses under the guidance of a faculty mentor. HIDS majors are available for the AB, BS, BSA and BSFCS degrees. They may not be used to create a vocational program of study. For information about the BSA and BSFCS degrees please contact the appropriate Dean's office in either the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences or the College of Family and Consumer Sciences.

1. Proposals for the Honors Interdisciplinary Studies major must be submitted by the beginning of the Fall semester of the student's third year at UGA. Students must have at least 45 hours (three semesters) left prior to their intended graduation date. Approval is not guaranteed, so be prepared to complete an existing major.
2. Choose a faculty mentor in your Primary Subject area. This will be the faculty member who will have primary responsibility for supervising your course work and approving your Honors thesis (see below). Students must select a faculty mentor from among the tenured or tenure track faculty in the primary department and a second professor (tenured or tenure track) from one of the secondary subject areas to act as an advisor or reader for the thesis.
3. Students should create a tentative list of major courses from three or more departments. These courses should be 3000 level or higher and have a central theme or focus, which reflects the purpose of the major. Designate a Primary Subject Area in the department from which at least four of the major courses will be selected. The four primary courses must be in one department and in the college or school awarding the degree (Franklin College, CAES or FACS). The secondary area should contain courses from two or more additional departments. Students will work with their faculty mentor to refine the Core Curriculum Area IV class list, taken from 1000 and 2000 level Core courses (these can be classes that are already completed). All courses credited toward the major must be approved by the faculty mentor. Completion of the HIDS degree requires completion of all USG & College-specific requirements.
4. Students will work with their faculty mentor to refine the major course list and write a rationale for why this major is a reasonable academic endeavor. Points to consider include: relation of the various topics to a specific area of geographic or temporal interest; preparation for a graduate program; the existence of similar programs at other universities, etc. This rationale must explain the intellectual cohesiveness of the proposed major. It should also address the institutional barriers

that prevent existing departmental majors, minors, or certificate programs to accomplish the same goals.

5. The faculty mentor will also have to write a rationale for supervising the proposed HIDS major. This letter should describe the intellectual coherence of the proposed major, and how the professor believes that it improves upon existing combinations of majors and minors.
6. An Honors capstone thesis course (HONS 4990H) is required in order to integrate all of the course work taken for the proposed major. A detailed thesis plan is not necessary for the approval process.
7. If the Honors Faculty Council approves the HIDS application, copies of the approved proposal will be sent to the student, faculty mentors, and the appropriate dean. The approved Plan of Study will be used to verify your completion of the degree requirements. After graduation, the student's "Brief Title" will go on the transcript following the degree and major in "Honors Interdisciplinary Studies."
8. Changes in the major courses must be reported on the Honors Interdisciplinary Studies Revised Program of Study form (attached). Extensive changes may require review by the student's college or dean.

Honors Interdisciplinary Study Application

Application date _____ Expected Graduation Date _____ Degree _____

NAME _____ ID # _____

Local Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

of courses completed _____ Cum. Avg. _____ # Honors courses _____ Avg. _____

1. Primary Subject (minimum of 4 upper division courses in one subject) _____

2. Other subjects included in HIDS _____

3. Brief Title of HIDS (noted on transcript after graduation) _____

I have read the requirements for the Honors Interdisciplinary Studies major, and this student's proposal. I hereby recommend approval of this Honors Interdisciplinary Study major, and agree to serve as Faculty mentor for this student. A copy of my rationale for why this is a reasonable academic endeavor is attached.

NAME _____ Title _____

Signature _____ Department _____

I hereby recommend approval of this Honors Interdisciplinary Study major, and agree to serve as and advisor for this student's HIDS degree and second reader for this student's required Honors thesis.

NAME _____ Title _____

Signature _____ Department _____

Honors Program Approval By _____ Date _____

Proposed Plan of Study for Honors Interdisciplinary Study

NAME _____ Date _____

I. Core Area VI (eighteen hours at 1000-2000 level):

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

II. Primary Subject - four courses at 3000 level and above in one department.

Course Title

1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____

III. Secondary subjects - six courses of related subjects at the 3000 level and above. Courses from the primary department may be used, and may include research and thesis, but at least two other departments must be represented among your courses.

5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____
7. _____	_____
8. _____	_____
9. _____	_____
10. _____	_____

Attach a complete description of your proposed Honors Interdisciplinary Study, including its rationale and purpose. The rationale must include an explanation of the intellectual cohesiveness of the proposed major. It should also explain why current departmental majors and/or minors cannot be used to accomplish the same goals. The faculty mentor should also write, and attach, a letter of support for the creation of this major.

Course changes to this application must be made on a Revised Program of Study form so that they can be communicated to your Dean's office. Extensive changes may require review by the Honors Faculty Council.

The Dean's office of the student's intended degree shall ascertain that all degree requirements not pre-empted by this major program are met for graduation. This includes all of the college's requirements, in addition to the Regent's Core and other University and USG requirements.

Honors Interdisciplinary Studies: Revised Program of Study

Name

Student ID Number

E-mail

Local Address and Telephone Number

This form will be used by your college to certify you for graduation. Record your entire major program, including revisions. Extensive changes may require review by the Honors Faculty Council, who may require a revised rationale in addition to the course changes.

I. Primary Subject (Four courses at the 3000 level or above, in one department):

	New Course	Original Course	Reason for Change
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1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

II. Secondary Subjects (Six courses of related subjects, at the 3000 level or above. Additional courses from the Primary department may be used).

	New Course	Original Course	Reason for Change
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1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Date

Major Professor's Signature

c: Dean's Office
Major Professor
Second Professor
Student's File

Professor's Name (Please Print)

Second Professor's Signature

Second Professor's Name (Please Print)